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The Hague Conference.

Before another number of the ADVOCATE OF PEACE is published, the second Hague Conference, which has probably been more thought about and talked about in advance than any other international event has ever been, will be in session. The work of preparation for it has been practically completed, on the part both of the governments and of the general public.

The interest which it has aroused has been enormous. The governments and the delegations have been the recipients of innumerable memorials and addresses respectfully but earnestly urging favorable action at The Hague along certain great practical lines, looking to the settled peace and unity of the world. What these are, our readers well know. They have been presented and urged many times in our columns, and need not be repeated now. If any organizations or groups of persons have so far failed to speak, useful service may yet be performed by sending at once letters, cablegrams or memorials directly to the chairman of the American Delegation at The Hague. The more of them received, the stronger will be the hands of our delegation to push the important propositions entrusted to them.

We have given in previous issues our reasons for believing that the results of the Conference will be great and lasting. We do not expect to see accomplished all that ought to be accomplished, all that the

world is entirely ripe for. But much will be done. Important forward steps will be taken in the advancement of civilization. The governments have already given their instructions to their delegations. What these are in detail is not known, but their general trend is not difficult to determine. Supplementary instructions will be sent from time to time as the deliberations proceed, as was the case in 1899.

The Conference will probably sit for two months or more, and we must be patient in regard to results. The work will be done in committees behind closed doors, and we must not be led away into pessimism by newspaper guesses and rumors of failure as the days go by. The members of the Conference are among the ablest and most experienced public men of the time. A considerable number of them sat in the first Hague Conference. Several of them have been long actively connected with the arbitration and peace movement. They are serious men, many of them of a progressive type. They are going to The Hague on the greatest mission on which any of them ever left their countries, and they are not going there to fritter away their time and convict themselves of incapacity and of folly by doing small and trifling things. They are conscious of the great responsibilities resting upon them, and are well informed as to what the civilized world expects of them.

We see no reason for relaxing in the least our optimism as the day of the opening of the Conference approaches. It cannot fail. It is written in the fates, in the divine oncoming destiny of humanity, that it should have a great success.

The Mohonk Arbitration Conference.

The annual meeting of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration is now looked upon as one of the chief events of the year, in this country, in connection with the international peace cause. It ranks with the International Peace Congress, the National Peace Congresses and the Interparliamentary Conference. No more distinguished body of men comes together anywhere for the advocacy of the principle of pacific settlement than that which Mr. Smiley, with noble generosity, annually gathers about him for the advancement of arbitration and other kindred agencies. The recent Conference, held May 22 to 24, with one marked exception maintained the high level of moral leadership which had characterized all the former Mohonk meetings.